

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

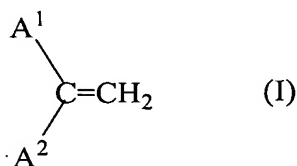
Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A novel olefin mixture preparable by the following steps,

subjecting a C₄-olefin mixture to metathesis,
separating off olefins having from 5 to 8 carbon atoms from the metathesis mixture,
subjecting the separated-off olefins individually or as a mixture to dimerization to
give olefin mixtures having from 10 to 16 carbon atoms,

wherein

- a) the components have from 10 to 16 carbon atoms
- b) the proportion of unbranched olefins is less than 25% by weight
- c) the proportion of components having a structural element of the formula I
(vinylidene group)



wherein A¹ and A² represent aliphatic hydrocarbon groups, is below 10 by weight

Claim 10 (Original): An olefin mixture as claimed in claim 9, which has a proportion of unbranched olefins of less than 20% by weight.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): An olefin mixture as claimed in ~~one of claims 9 and 10~~ claim 9, wherein at least 80% of the components of the dimerization mixture have, in the

range from 1/4 to 3/4, of the chain length of their main chain, one branch, or two branches to adjacent carbon atoms.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): An olefin mixture as claimed in claim 9, wherein, at the branching sites of the main chain, predominantly groups having (y-4) and (y-5) carbon atoms are bonded, where y is the number of carbon atoms in the monomer used for the dimerization.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): An olefin mixture as claimed in claim 9, wherein the ratio of aliphatic to olefinic hydrogen atoms is in the range

$H_{\text{aliph.}} : H_{\text{olefin.}} = (2*n-0.5) : 0.5 \text{ to } (2*n-1.9) : 1.9$, where n is the number of carbon atoms in the olefin obtained in the dimerization.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An olefin mixture as claimed in ~~one of claims 9 to 13~~ claim 9, wherein the ratio of aliphatic to olefinic hydrogen atoms is in the range

$H_{\text{aliph.}} : H_{\text{olefin.}} = (2*n-1.0) : 1 \text{ to } (2*n-1.6) : 1.6$.

Claims 15- 20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): A novel surfactant alcohol obtainable by the following steps

subjecting a C₄-olefin mixture to metathesis;

separating off olefins having from 5 to 8 carbon atoms from the metathesis mixture;

subjecting the separated-off olefins individually or as a mixture to dimerization to give olefin mixtures having from 10 to 16 carbon atoms;

subjecting the resulting olefin mixture, optionally after fractionation, to derivatization to give a mixture of surfactant alcohols; and optionally

alkoxylating the surfactant alcohols; wherein the novel surfactant

- a) has 11 to 17 carbon atoms and
- b) comprises a proportion of unbranched alcohols of below 25 % by weight, and its alkoxylation products.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A method for the preparation of surfactants comprising chemically modifying the surfactant alcohol of claim 21.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 23, comprising: esterification of said surfactant alcohol with sulfuric acid or sulfuric acid derivatives to give acidic alkyl sulfates or alkyl ether sulfates.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): A method according to claim 23, comprising esterification of said surfactant alcohol with phosphoric acid or its derivatives to give acidic alkyl phosphates or alkyl ether phosphates.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): An olefin mixture as claimed in claim 9, wherein at least 80% of the components of the dimerization mixture have, in the range from $1/3$ to $2/3$, of the chain length of their main chain, one branch, or two branches to adjacent carbon atoms.

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Reply to Office Action of November 30, 2006

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 22 and 24 have been canceled. Claims 9-14, 21, 23 and 25-27 are now pending in the application.